

Subject: Meeting Notes - Concerned Citizens of Laytonville Community Meeting  
(6-9 pm June 16, 2022)

Prepared by: Chris Watt, June 17, 2022

File: Laytonville Solid Waste Disposal Site (SWDS), Laytonville, CA 95454,  
WDID 1B750500MEN

Meeting was held at Laytonville Lion's Hall. Approximately 40 people in attendance including myself and Charles Reed from Regional Water Board, two staff from CalRecycle, two staff from Mendocino County Air Quality Management District, and County of Mendocino Supervisor, John Haschak.

Meeting emcee was David Sanchez, local pastor and land manager. I spoke with David before the meeting started, introduced myself and offered to provide a link to the GeoTracker website page for the closed landfill on Branscomb Road.

David Sanchez – Laytonville has higher than normal health issues compared with typical community. The burn dump was not capped and does not have any monitoring. The landfill was not properly capped, is leaking leachate and gases into the air and watershed. We have no definitive answers and there are data gaps. Requesting coordination with community on where to test and monitor based on community observations. The problem has not been conclusively identified. Is this problem related to the landfills or something else? Looking for some actual work to get done. We don't know and people are dying.

Bradley Angel – been coming to Laytonville for about 25 years. Represents Green Action for Health and Environmental Justice. Organization was founded by regular people that got sick from hazardous conditions. In Laytonville, the damage has been done. The Green Action community health survey (4 years ago?) found that 19% of tribal residents surveyed and 14% of community surveyed reported having cancers. Government has not done anything to get people out of harm's way. The community has first-hand knowledge of toxins dumped at the landfill. Smoke and odors from burning garbage/waste left the landfill. Cahto tribal leaders want their people moved to safe homes. Testing at the burn dump found high levels of contamination, stuff is still running off. Lead was found in run-off in 1994.

Peggy Hoaglin – Donald Frazier's well is contaminated.

Sandy Karinen, former Senior environmental scientist with DTSC – family from Mendocino County, grew up on east coast, but came to Laytonville to visit family. Spent 40 years with State of California, 10 years with State Water Board and 30 years with DTSC. Will the cap keep water from getting in from the sides and higher ground above the landfill? REMCO wastes were dumped at the landfill. The tribe found PCBs, lead, and Cr+6 on the rancheria. The landfill monitoring program is not sufficient. Landfill gases can move ½ mile and the water flow is towards Cahto. The Laytonville County Water District wells are pulling chemicals from the landfill. How long will the dumps continue to emit pollutants? There are transformers in the dump that were not cleaned out and utility poles. Do we need a new well for the town? Why did the Laytonville County Water District take a well offline? Rancheria wanted to put in a gas station but it was not allowed because the area was already polluted by other sources. Landfill cap – if cap won't keep discharges from leaving bottom of dump, why replace it? County can't tell how far the

waste goes out and down. Cap is not going to solve the problem. U.S. Public Health study was not comprehensive. The tribe keeps funding studies and the landfill is not adequately characterized.

Jim Shields, Laytonville County Water District Manager – the first community water well was installed in 1951 in Harwood Park and produced 500 gpm. The second well (drilled to 500 feet) was installed 75 feet from the first well in 1988 but only produced 32 gpm so was taken offline. Third well installed and produced 800 gpm. There is a residual chlorine in the water supply as required. Carl Kyle interview recollection as quoted from Jim Shields, “ I remember we had those PCB containers, there were times I was burying them in the landfill. PGE reports that they were pumped out before dumping in the landfill.” Laytonville County Water District samples annually for PCBs and Cr+6 in raw water and it is always non-detect. Back in 2006, \$3M spent by Federal agencies testing landfill area. EPA spoke with Jim Shields about how to get people to understand the need to have monitoring wells. Why don’t we test private domestic wells? Someone sampled 10 wells around the landfill – all came back clean except small hits of Lindane and DDT. There were 13 logging mills in Laytonville in the past. Testing of domestic wells near landfill has not found any landfill related chemicals. BIA study found CR+6 on rancheria in 2016 in one spot of surface soils out of a large, gridded area sampled. Tribal representatives were present during the sampling.

Unnamed Member of Public – How do we go about getting County to do testing?

Supervisor John Haschak – we will talk to County Engineer. I appreciate the work being done on behalf of those that have passed.

Unnamed Member of Public – what is being done about leachate spills?

Olin Jones – a member of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, spent 17 years, as the Director of the Office of Native American Affairs in State Attorney General’s office. Olin heard from Peggy and started calling CalEPA – he got their attention. Who is responsible and culpable to address these issues? Will a working group of committees give the community some official status? Supervisor Haschak mentioned collaboration. Can this happen through the County?

Louie Hoaglin – willing to help with community engagement in process and support environmental testing and monitoring program within community. When the cap is removed for the repair, how will landfill gases be controlled to prevent community exposure?